

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Method of manufacturing, from a strip of metal (17), a structured packing corrugation (1) having a ~~surface which is generated by sweeping a repetitive profile (4) parallel to edges (2, 3) of the strip, along a path (8) which is non-rectilinear over at least part of its length and having a main orientation which is oblique with respect to edges of the strip~~ rectilinear region and a non-rectilinear region, comprising performing a folding-pressing operation on a metal strip (17) in successive steps, by means of two opposed dies (11, 12) with a relative movement alternating between coming together and moving apart, these dies having convex apexes and active surfaces (11, 12) which mate with ~~the two~~ opposite faces of the corrugation, wherein, in at least [[one]] said non-rectilinear region, ~~at least some~~ said convex apexes (13A to 16A) of at least one die (11, 12) have a reduced height compared with that of an ~~adjacent~~ said rectilinear region.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 1, wherein all ~~[[the]]~~ said convex apexes of the two dies (11, 12) have a reduced height in ~~each or one~~ said non-rectilinear region.

4. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein said reduction in height is progressive from the said adjacent rectilinear region.

5. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the strip (17) is perforated before the folding-pressing operation is carried out.

6. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the strip (17) is annealed before it undergoes folding-pressing, at least in ~~the regions of this strip which correspond to the~~ said non-rectilinear ~~regions~~ region (10) ~~of the path (8).~~

7. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~path (8)~~ corrugation has a rectilinear main part (9) and at least one curved end part (10) which ends substantially perpendicular to the edges (2, 3) of the corrugation (1).

8. (currently amended) Method according to Claim 7, wherein said ~~path (8)~~ corrugation has an elongate S-shape, with a

rectilinear main part (9) and two curved end parts (10) which end substantially perpendicular to the edges (2, 3) of the corrugation (1).

9. (currently amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~profile (4)~~ strip has a cross-section that is zig-zag shaped with substantially rectilinear sides (5).

10. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the corrugation (1) is a cross-corrugated packing corrugation.

11. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of making the sheet-metal strip (17) advance in successive steps between the dies in the open position thereof.

12-16. (canceled)